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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /077 W
----------075185 230331Z /14
R 221621Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5869
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CH, RO, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS VOICES DISSATISFACTION WITH BUCHAREST OVER HUA VISIT

1. SOVIET PRESS HAS USED HUA KUO-FENG VISIT TO BUCHAREST TO CONTINUE ATTACKS ON CHINA AND INDIRECTLY TO VOICE DISSATISFACTION WITH ROMANIA FOR HOSTING CHINESE. VARIOUS TASS REPORTS CARRIED IN THE CENTRAL PRESS, LARGELY REPLAYING COMMENT IN FRIENDLY PARTY PAPERS, HAVE STRESSED THE CONTINUITY
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OF CHINESE OBJECTIVES, APPARENTLY SEEKING THEREBY TO UNDERSCORE ROMANIAN IRRESPONSIBILITY (OR WORSE) IN ENTERTAINING SUCH SCOUNDRELS.

2. CLEAREST EXPRESSION OF SOVIET CONCERN OVER ROMANIA CONSORTING WITH PEKING IS PROVIDED IN AUGUST 21 TASS ARTICLE READ IN FULL ON EVENING TV

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NEWS THAT DAY AND PUBLISHED IN CENTRAL PRESS ON AUGUST 22. IN HIGHLIGHTING OMISSIONS IN FINAL STATEMENT (NO REFERENCE TO DETENTE, ENDING THE ARMS RACE, THE MIDDLE EAST, CHINESE RELATIONS WITH THE SRV), TASS IMPLIES THAT ROMANIA HAS COMPROMISED ITS PRINCIPLED POSITIONS ON THESE ISSUES TO PLEASE THE CHINESE. TASS FURTHER SUGGESTS A DESIRE BY THE TWO PARTIES "TO DRAW A VEIL OVER THE ESSENCE AND THE TREND OF THE NEGOTIATIONS." TASS THEN QUOTES WESTERN PRESS ACCOUNTS TO RAISE ONCE AGAIN THE DANGER OF CHINESE PENETRATION OF THE BALKANS AND, QUOTING AT LENGTH THE LONDON OBSERVER, TO IMPLY THAT BUCHAREST CAN GET BADLY BURNED IN ATTEMPTING TO PLAY UP TO PEKING.

3. COMMENT: CLEARLY THE SOVIETS ARE UPSET OVER BUCHAREST'S HOSTING OF HUA. AT THE SAME TIME, MOSCOW APPARENTLY HAS FOUND NOTHING IN ROMANIAN BEHAVIOR TO JUSTIFY A DIRECT PUBLIC REPROACH, AND IS REDUCED AT THIS STAGE TO SNIDE REMARKS ABOUT WHAT WAS NOT SAID DURING THE VISIT AND ABOUT ROMANIAN FOOLISHNESS IN PLAYING PEKING'S GAME.
TOON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Litigation History:
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